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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/696,359	10/27/2003	Chi-Tung Chang	P02995-F009	9437
7590 04/10/2007 Chi-Tung Chang 7F, No. 213, Civic Boulevard. Sec. 4. Taipei, 105 TAIWAN			EXAMINER GODBOLD, DOUGLAS	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2626	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		04/10/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/696,359

Applicant(s)

CHANG ET AL.

Examiner

Douglas C. Godbold

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 October 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to application 10/696,359 filed November 27, 2003. Claims 1-12 are pending in the application and have been examined.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because figure 1 does not contain any text labels for clarity. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-12 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bum (US PgPub 2004/0039575).

5. Consider claim 1, Bum teaches a digital sound file playback reproducer (figures 2-7, comprising:

a housing (figure 3A, housing 100);

a connection port located at one side of said housing for an external recording medium having sound files stored thereon to connect thereto (figure 2, memory slot 120) ;

a sound source output unit located at one side of said housing, (figure 6, earphone jack 650); and

a processing unit (CPU 340, figure 4) located inside said housing and electrically connected to said connection port (USB Port 320, through interface 330) and said

Art Unit: 2626

sound source output (through decoder 370 and DAC 380) unit for picking up and processing sound files in said externally connected recording medium, and sending said processed sound files to said sound source output unit (The CPU 340 is connected to the key input unit 310 and the interface unit 330. The CPU 340 integrally controls the respective elements of the system to perform an operation corresponding to a key signal by processing the key signal applied to the key input unit 310, requests and receives MP3 data from the flash disk, and instructs the received MP3 data to be applied to a specific path. Further, the CPU 340 is provided with a USB host function to transmit MP3 data applied to the flash disk to a specific path through the interface unit 330; paragraph 0036).

6. Consider claim 2, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said connection port is a USB port (Figure 4, USB port 320).

7. Consider claim 3, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said sound source output unit comprises a headphone jack (figure 6, earphone jack 650).

8. Consider claim 4, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said processing unit includes at least a controller (Figure 4, CPU 340), a decoder (decoder 370), a digital-to-analog converter (DAC 380), and an amplifier (The converted analog data are amplified by an amplification means (for

Art Unit: 2626

example, power amplifier) and the amplified analog data are output through the speaker to the outside at step S460; paragraph 0044).

9. Consider claim 5, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an operating unit located at an outer side of said housing and electrically connected to said processing unit for controlling playback of said digital sound files (Figure 4, the key input unit 310 functions to generate a key signal to instruct the MP3 player 100 to execute specific operations (for example, reproduction, volume up/down, operation start/end, music selection); paragraph 0035).

10. Consider claim 6, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 5, wherein said operating unit includes a plurality of keys (Figure 4, the key input unit 310 functions to generate a key signal to instruct the MP3 player 100 to execute specific operations (for example, reproduction, volume up/down, operation start/end, music selection); paragraph 0035).

11. Consider claim 7, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 5, wherein said operating unit includes a display panel for displaying operation and/or playback status (figure 4, display 360).

Art Unit: 2626

12. Consider claim 8, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 6, wherein said operating unit includes a display panel for displaying operation and/or playback status (figure 4, display 360).

13. Consider claim 9, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a power supply unit electrically connected to said processing unit for providing working power needed by said digital sound file playback reproducer to work normally (...displays the initial status of the MP3 player 100 for example, the attachment and detachment of the flash disk, and the remaining power of a battery paragraph 0043).

14. Consider claim 10, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 9, wherein said power supply unit comprises at least one battery (...displays the initial status of the MP3 player 100 for example, the attachment and detachment of the flash disk, and the remaining power of a battery paragraph 0043).

15. Consider claim 11, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said sound files are MP3 (MPEG Audio Layer-3) files (The host processing device 600 of the present invention is connected to the external storage medium 610 through the digital interface 620, reads a media file, such as MP3, WMA, AVI, WMV or MPG file, and processes the media file...; paragraph 0046).

Art Unit: 2626

16. Consider claim 12, Bum teaches the digital sound file playback reproducer as claimed in claim 1, wherein said sound files are WMA (Windows Media Audio) files (the host processing device 600 of the present invention is connected to the external storage medium 610 through the digital interface 620, reads a media file, such as MP3, WMA, AVI, WMV or MPG file, and processes the media file... paragraph 0046).

Conclusion

17. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure is listed on the notices of references cited, USPTO-892.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas C. Godbold whose telephone number is (571) 270-1451. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:00am-4:30pm Friday 7:00am-3:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick Edouard can be reached on (571) 272-7603. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2626

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

DCG



PATRICK N. EDOUARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER